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Art Unit:

DATE OF DEPOSIT: DECEMBER 5, 2001

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re Application of: Victoria Pope, Arnold R. Castro,

William E. Morrill

Application No.

Filed: Herewith

COMPOSITION AND METHOD FOR

DETECTING SYPHILIS USING SYNTHETIC

ANTIGENS

Examiner:

Date: December 5, 2001

BOX PATENT APPLICATION U.S. PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE P.O. BOX 2327 ARLINGTON, VA 22202

PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT

In the Specification:

Please add the following language:

-- PRIORITY CLAIM

This is a § 371 U.S. National Stage of PCT/US00/75666, filed June 8, 2000, which was published in English under PCT Article 21(2), which claims the benefit of U.S. Provisional Application 60/138,192, filed June 9, 1999.--

In the Claims:

Prior to examination of the above-identified § 371 National Stage application, please add the following claims: